



THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS
Department of Agricultural Resources
251 Causeway Street, Suite 500, Boston, MA 02114
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MITT ROMNEY
Governor

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Secretary

KERRY HEALEY
Lieutenant Governor

DOUGLAS P. GILLESPIE
Commissioner

Agricultural Composting Registration Application

Composting Site Operator Information

1. **Name of Operator** _____
2. **Address of Operator**

Street

City MA Zip County
3. **Telephone Number** _____
4. **Fax Number** _____
5. **E-mail Address** _____

Composting Land Owner Information (if different from operator)

6. **Name of Land Owner** _____
7. **Address of Land Owner**

Street

City MA Zip County
8. **Telephone Number** _____
9. **Fax Number** _____
10. **E-mail Address** _____

Compost Site Information

11. Name of Farm or Agricultural Operation _____
12. Address of Farm _____
13. Size of the Farm _____ Acres
14. Size of the Compost Site _____ Acres
15. Zoning Classification(s) of the Land Proposed for the Compost Site _____
16. Is the proposed composting site located on Agricultural Preservation Restriction (APR) land? Yes
⑥ No
⑥
17. List the approximate date you plan to begin composting at this site or the date you began composting?
- _____
- Month Year
18. Identify the proposed percentages of on-farm and off-farm uses of compost.
- _____ % used on-farm _____ % used off-farm
19. Briefly describe your farm and the farming activities you conduct.
(i.e. livestock, poultry, vegetables, dairy, nursery)
20. Do your farming activities qualify as "farming" or "agriculture" under Massachusetts General Law chapter 128 section 1A (see below)? Yes
⑥ No
⑥
- "Farming" or "agriculture" shall include farming in all of its branches and the cultivation and tillage of the soil, dairying, the production, cultivation, growing and harvesting of any agricultural, aquacultural, floricultural or horticultural commodities, the growing and harvesting of forest products upon forest land, the raising of livestock including horses, the keeping of horses as a commercial enterprise, the keeping and raising of poultry, swine, cattle and other domesticated animals used for food purposes, bees, fur-bearing animals, and any forestry or lumbering operations, performed by a farmer, who is hereby defined as one engaged in agriculture or farming as herein defined, or on a farm as an incident to or in conjunction with such farming operations, including preparations for market, delivery to storage or to market or to carriers for transportation to market.*
21. How far is the proposed or current composting site from any public water supply? _____ feet
22. How far is the proposed or current composting site from any private well? _____ feet
23. How far is the proposed or current composting site from any wetlands? _____ feet
24. How far is the proposed or current composting site from surface waters? _____ feet
25. How far is the proposed or current composting site from any neighbors' homes? _____ Feet
26. Is the proposed or current composting site blocked from neighbors' view Yes No

by a vegetative buffer?

⑥

⑥

27. **Compostable Materials:** Identify which materials you propose to compost. Indicate source, rate of accumulation, quantity in tons per cubic yard, and percentage of total received. Please note that your registration from the Department of Agricultural Resources (“Agricultural Resources”) may limit the materials you are allowed to compost.

Material	Source (farm/off-farm)	Rate of Accumulation (daily, weekly, monthly, yearly)	Quantity (tons/cubic yard)	Percentage (of total received)
⑥ Agricultural Waste (list types) _____ _____ _____ _____				
⑥ Leaf and yard waste				
⑥ Wood wastes				
⑥ Clean newspaper or cardboard				
⑥ Clean, compostable (i.e. thin) shells, and clean bones				
⑥ Non-agricultural sources of manure and animal bedding materials				
⑥ Less than 20 cubic yards or less than ten tons per day of vegetative material				
⑥ Less than ten cubic yards or less than five tons per day of food material				

28. **Describe the planned compost “recipe” or mixture of compostables.**
(i.e. 2/6 leaf and yard waste, 2/6 wood wastes, 1/6 horse manure, 1/6 vegetative material)

29. **Composting Plan Narrative:** You may either print or type your answers below or attach a separate sheet. Complete answers will help Agricultural Resources determine your knowledge and capability to conduct the agricultural composting operation to produce a stabilized compost product.
- A. Aeration: What method, frequency and equipment will you use for aerating the composting piles?
 - B. Moisture and Temperature Levels: How will you maintain adequate moisture and temperature levels in the composting piles?
 - C. Mixing and piling materials: How will the composting piles be constructed and located on the composting site? (Give the height, length and width of the piles.)
 - D. Composting Time Duration: How long will the composting period take from beginning to finished product?
 - E. Soil Characteristics: Describe the soil properties at the compost site or attach a copy of a Soil Conservation Service (SCS) map with the proposed composting site marked.
 - F. Security Controls: What are your plans for preventing illegal dumping of waste materials?
 - G. Monitoring Controls: What are your plans for controlling drainage, leachate, runoff from precipitation; erosion and sediment runoff; odor; noise, flies, and other pests; fire; pathogens; litter; and dust?

H. Staging Procedures: Consider the planned staging procedures for the composting operation. Describe delivery and drop-off, storage and containment (where applicable).

I. Personnel: What personnel will be used and how will they be trained?

J. Equipment: What equipment will you use and for what purposes (including mixing piling, and turning)?

K. Contaminants: How will you store, remove, and dispose of non-compostable?

L. Quality Control: Describe procedures for removing physical contaminants from raw materials.

M. Contingency Plan: Due to the fact that the Department of Food and Agriculture has reserved the right to revoke your registration, a detailed explanation of your contingency plan is required. Please attach the contingency plan to this application. The plan must include the steps you plan to take to restore the compost site to the condition it was in before composting began. (i.e. means of removal, location of disposal, etc.)

Please Initial _____

N. End-Use: What is the intended final use of the compost? Include on-farm uses and if relevant, identify your off-farm compost users or markets.

30. **Local Assessor's Plan:** Attach a copy of the local assessor's plan that shows the land proposed for the composting site location. Mark the following directly on the plan. (Feel free to attach blank paper if necessary to draw the features surrounding your land.)

- ☐ The boundaries of the proposed composting site
- ☐ Locations of composting materials and storage areas.
- ☐ Uses of land adjoining the composting site (e.g. residential, park, commercial)
- ☐ Occupied buildings within 500 feet of the composting site
- ☐ Any vegetative buffers between composting area and adjacent properties
- ☐ Public and private roads and drop-off areas for delivery of off-farm material

Please
Initial

- _____ I certify that the information contained on this application and attached material is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge and belief.
- _____ I have familiarized myself with and agree to comply with the Massachusetts agricultural composting laws (330 CMR 25.00, 310 CMR 16.00) attached to this application.
- _____ I agree to allow Agricultural Resources officials to visit and inspect the composting site.
- _____ I agree to submit to Agricultural Resources an annual report that summarizes the operations of the composting site and any changes that may have occurred since my last report.
- _____ I understand that if Agricultural Resources finds that any portion of this Agricultural Composting Registration application includes false or misleading information, or the operation of the registered composting facility is in violation of the regulations or guidelines, or is acting not in the best interest of Massachusetts agriculture, the Department may suspend or revoke my registration under 330 CMR 25.06.
- _____ I further understand that if my registration is revoked, my composting site will no longer be exempt and I will be required to comply with Department of Environmental Protection Regulations for Determination of Need for Site Assignment as set forth in 310 CMR 16.05(4).

Composting Site Operator Signature

Date

Land Owner Signature (if different from operator)

Date

Mail the completed application and any supporting materials to:

William Blanchard
Agricultural Composting Coordinator
Massachusetts Department of Agricultural Resources
251 Causeway Street
Boston, Massachusetts 02114-2151